

ENERGY STAR® Fast Facts



The Symbol for Energy Efficiency

Fast Facts about ENERGY STAR®

- The United States Department of Energy and the United States Environmental Protection Agency created the ENERGY STAR label to help consumers quickly and easily identify home appliances and other products that save energy. ENERGY STAR is the symbol for energy efficiency.
- Energy generation and use, including electricity, is a major cause of air pollution and has also been linked to global warming. The less energy we use, the more pollution we can prevent.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR label when you are remodeling or replacing energy-using equipment in your home. ENERGY STAR qualified appliances include refrigerators, dishwashers, room air conditioners, and clothes washers.
- ENERGY STAR qualified homes are whole-house certified buildings that incorporate energy savings in design and various components of their construction. These homes often afford their owners more comfort and a higher resale value. Lenders may extend ENERGY STAR Mortgages, with more generous terms, to buyers of ENERGY STAR qualified homes.
- ENERGY STAR qualified products are significantly more efficient than required under current federal standards. For example, refrigerators, central air conditioning systems, and furnaces exceed existing federal standards by a minimum of 20 percent, 20 percent, and 15 percent respectively.
- Energy efficiency is a “pocketbook issue.” The average annual home energy bill in the United States is \$1,300. By choosing ENERGY STAR qualifying products when replacing old equipment, the typical household can cut that bill by about 30 percent.
- Most people don’t know that the typical house adds more greenhouse gas pollution (emissions of carbon dioxide) — via energy consumption — to the atmosphere each year than the average car.
- If all households and businesses in the United States bought ENERGY STAR qualified products instead of conventional new equipment over the next 15 years, the national annual energy bill would be reduced by about \$100 billion. The reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (carbon dioxide) would be equivalent to taking 17 million cars off the road for each of those 15 years.
- Many major manufacturers and retailers are participating in ENERGY STAR by labeling qualifying products, distributing consumer education brochures, and promoting ENERGY STAR qualified products through their own advertising. Utility partners across the country also participate by sending educational materials to ratepayers via bill stuffers.
- By choosing ENERGY STAR qualifying products, homeowners can use energy more efficiently, save money on utility bills, help make their homes more comfortable, and reduce air pollution without sacrificing the features, versatility or style they expect from high-performing products.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR label on packaging, literature, product advertising, and products themselves. Ask retail sales staff to show you the ENERGY STAR qualified products in their showrooms. Use the Internet to find a store near you that carries qualifying products: www.energystar.gov.